

To His Excellency, A. G. Magrath
Governor of South Carolina;

Sir, I had the honor of addressing
a letter to you, about a week ago, at
Columbia, which, I presume from recent
events, has not reached you.

I have been warned for active
service, (capturing deserters, I think), as
a member of the 2nd class Militia of
the State, and write you, asking you
to give me an exemption from the same.

I am the Rector of Trinity
(Episcopal Church) in this place, and
the only resident clergyman minister-
ing to its permanent & negro popula-
tion, and besides, am physically unfit
for such a service.

I hold to the opinion that
Ministers of the Church, being sub-

apart, by divine appointment
for higher uses, should not be
taken from their work, for worldly
or any other purposes of this world,
but if the State, by her authorities
thinks otherwise, I must acquiesce
in the decision.

Hoping that you will
willingly send me an exemption
at your earliest convenience, I
am with high respect

Yours -

John S. Kidney.

Society Hill. S. C.

Feb 21. 1865.